**Digital Story Telling Project:**

Movies based on Shakespearean Plays: Find images in the movies to see if they accurately portray/display climatic moments in the play.

**Project worth 50 Points (Point Breakdown):**

* **Video: 30 points**
* **Outline: 20 points** 
  + **Video is to be 3-5 minutes long**

**West Side Story (1961)**

**Based on:**Romeo and Juliet

One of the earliest and most famous versions of this phenomenon, West Side Storymoves Romeo and Julietto Manhattan's Upper West Side in the '50s, using belted-out solos and bright dance numbers instead of soliloquies. In place of the original play's Capulet-Montague family feud, West Side Story offers the Sharks and the Jets — two rival gangs spawned from the era's ethnic conflicts and strange obsession with juvenile delinquents — to separate the star-crossed lovers.

**The Lion King(1994)**

**Based on:**Hamlet

There is some debate over whether The Lion King's resemblance to Hamlet was intentional, but it's hard to ignore the parallels. The scheming uncle who murders the young prince's father (Claudius/Scar), the appearance of the dead king as a ghost (King Hamlet/Mufasa), the prince's strange friends who serve as comic relief (Rosencrantz and Guildenstern/Timon and Pumba). Where the two versions differ the most — apart from the singing animals, of course — is the ending. In Hamlet, pretty much everyone dies. InThe Lion King, Simba has a happy ending and retakes the throne with the help of Nala. Though Scar still dies, it's at the hand of his former hyena minions, and not Simba himself. The parallels between the storylines are fairly obvious if you are an expert on Hamlet, not so much if you just sat through it once in high school or something. The links have been the subject of scholarly articles, and there is little question that "The Lion King" contains the deepest references of all to William Shakespeare.

**10 Things I Hate About You (1999)**

**Based on:**The Taming of the Shrew

The 1999 adaptation of The Taming of the Shrewstars Heath Ledger as a bad boy who is paid to woo Julia Stiles, the "shrew," so that her father will allow her younger sister to date. The film uses many of the same names, like Kat for (Katherina) and her younger sister Bianca, and manages to sneak in a few Shakespearean quotes: "I burn, I pine, I perish," says Joseph Gordon Levitt's Cameron, who is in love with Bianca. Of course, the movie also throws in all the usual teen rom-com staples: A high-school dance, awkward poetry, and a date at a paintball arena (as well as the slightly less customary erotica-writing guidance counselor).

**O(2001)**

**Based on:**Othello

Just two years after 10 Things I Hate About You, Julia Stiles landed another teen version of a Shakespeare character — this time a knock-off of Othello's Desdemona named "Desi" in 2001's O. Ostars Mekhi Phifer as Odin, a basketball star manipulated by steroid-addicted "Hugo" (not Iago) — until his jealousy gets the better of him and, echoing Shakespeare's original text, he murders Desi and kills himself.

**She's The Man(2006)**

**Based on:**Twelfth Night

This Amanda Bynes-Channing Tatum flick draws its plot from Twelfth Night, with Illyria High School substituting for the land of Illyria. Bynes' Viola disguises herself as her brother so she can play soccer — a minor deviation from the original, where she dresses as a eunuch and lands a job with the local duke. She's The Manborrows many of the names and romantic shenanigans from the original text, and adds a gratuitous shout-out to Shakespeare by slipping in the play's most famous quote, spoken by Channing Tatum's "Duke": "Be not afraid of greatness. Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and others have greatness thrust upon them."